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# ***On Tap***

**Volume 15 Issue 4**

**April 2009**

## **ODDS AND ENDS**

### **TCWD's Open House**

Enclosed in this mailing is a flyer inviting the public to the District's 3rd Annual Open House. This event is really fun and educational! Please join us on Saturday, May 2nd, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at the District Administrative Office. See the enclosed flyer for more details.

### **New Water Rates**

Enclosed in this mailing are the newly adopted [water rates](#) for the District. These rates were adopted by the TCWD Board of Directors at the March 18, 2009 Board meeting after a 45 day notification period and holding a public hearing.

The new rates are necessary because of the increased cost of water (almost a 20% increase in the last 12 months) to Trabuco Canyon Water District from Metropolitan Water District (MET).

Please be reminded that TCWD has a tiered rate structure for residential water use. There are eight tiers in the rate structure. If residential users stay within the first four tiers, the impact of the new rate structure can be minimized. The rates increase significantly in the latter four tiers.

### **The Cost of Water to TCWD**

The increase in the cost of water charged by MET is not something TCWD can control. Due to the continuing water supply shortage and drought situation in California, MET is faced with increasing its charge for water again. MET has given early notice to water retailers (like TCWD) that another increase is pending in the next 12 to 24 months which will be between 35% and 39%.

### **Water Conservation Is NO Longer A Choice**

TCWD adopted its Water Conservation Ordinance in December of last year. It became effective on January 1, 2009. An informational flyer was provided in last month's bill regarding the [Permanent Provisions](#) of the ordinance now in effect regarding water use. The entire ordinance can be viewed on the District's website: <http://www.tcwd.ca.gov/pdf/ordinance.pdf>

One of the provisions of the ordinance is that restaurants only serve drinking water upon request by the customer. Notices and table top placards explaining this provision have been sent to all of the restaurants within the District's service area.

# TCWD'S ON TAP

## Water Conservation Hotline

Water conservation is not only an individual effort, but also a community effort. Many times unwise water use, and now an ordinance violation, is unknown to the person or entity that is wasting water.

The District has established a Conservation Hotline to allow individuals to report unwise water use. This number is reached by calling the District's normal business number

(949) 858-0277 and dialing 6.

Reporting individuals may leave a message regarding the details of the water waste; it is essential to report time, day, and location. Reports may be anonymous.

The District uses this information to make contact with the person or entity involved, and provides information about wise water use, and the District's [Permanent Provisions](#) now in effect in the Water Conservation Ordinance.

## Fire Hydrant Flushing

After all the discussion about water conservation, flushing water from fire hydrants seems like an incredible waste of water. A recent issue of On Tap discussed the reasons why it is essential for TCWD Water

Personnel routinely flush District Fire Hydrants. The District's website posts all previous On Tap issues. Please see the [August 2008](#) issue for more information.

## TCWD Facility Rental

Remember that TCWD's impressive Boardroom is available for rent. Visit the District's website and click on the "Information" tab for photos and details.

The Regular Board Meeting is held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the District's office located at 32003 Dove Canyon Drive, Trabuco Canyon. The public is encouraged to attend.

## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

- ☐ March 18, 2009 – Adopted a Resolution Amending the Rate Schedules of the District.
- ☐ Discussed activities for Water Awareness Day.
- ☐ Approved the Shadow Rock Detention Basin Project.
- ☐ Established an Ad Hoc Committee to review permitted uses of Marks Roos Funds.
- ☐ Received status updates relating to the Water Conservation Ordinance, Baker Regional Water Treatment Plant and Rose Canyon and Lang Wells Upgrades to Treatment Facilities Projects.

*ON TAP* is published and distributed by TCWD.

We welcome your comments, suggestions and questions. Please call or write Sharon E. Smith, Editor

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